

### **Abstract of the Disclosure**

A commerce exchange system manages contracts between manufacturers, distributors, and purchasers, and is accessible by all of the contracting parties over the Internet. Group purchasing organizations can access the system to place orders  
5 for distribution to various end users. The system stores data representing information regarding all of the parties in the contracting process. The system also stores data describing all of the products and services available from the seller, including dates of availability, sizes, prices, and other such information. The system also stores and updates all of the contract terms, product shipments, payments made,  
10 rebates due and chargeback payments.